

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2003



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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

## DC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO HOST EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS CONFERENCE FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Conference to kick-off first-ever Emergency Healthcare Reserve Corps

**Washington, D.C.-**The District of Columbia Department of Health (DOH) will host a free emergency preparedness conference for health professionals on Friday, September 19. The conference, entitled "Meeting the Challenges of Emergency Preparedness: Plan • Prepare • Protect," marks the kick-off of the District's first-ever Emergency Healthcare Reserve Corps (EHRC).

EHRC provides training opportunities for volunteer health professionals across multiple disciplines. Once participants successfully complete the training, they will receive credentials as official members of the EHRC and serve on various response teams called Emergency Medical Assistant Teams (EMATs).

The invited keynote speaker is Julie Gerberding, M.D., director of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. A reception will be held on Friday, September 19, 2003, from 5:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

For more information about this event, please contact EHMSA at (202) 671-0733 or visit <a href="https://www.bioterrorism.dc.gov">www.bioterrorism.dc.gov</a>.

All media are invited to attend.

WHO: The D.C. Department of Health (DOH)

WHAT: First Emergency Healthcare Reserve Corps

WHEN: Friday, September 19 @ 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

and Saturday, September 20, 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

WHERE: Washington Hilton Hotel

1919 Connecticut Ave., NW.